



OXFORD

Worcester County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Oxford is a small vibrant community located in southern Worcester County. Originally founded by the Huguenots in 1713, it has been home to such dignitaries as Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross, and Dr. Elliott P. Joslin, noted pioneer in the field of diabetes. Oxford, which is heaped with historical tradition, is home to many of the original Slater Mills, which were an integral part of the Industrial Revolution in New England.

Present-day Oxford is primarily a residential community with a small mix of industrial and commercial activity. Centered in the middle of the town is a 1,000-acre flood plain and wildlife management area. Excellent schools and strong government are the hallmarks of this typical New England town.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

South central Massachusetts, bordered by Dudley and Charlton on the west, Leicester and Auburn on the north, Millbury and Sutton on the east, and Douglas and Webster on the south. Oxford is about 14 miles south of Worcester; 51 miles southwest of Boston; 37 miles northwest of Providence, Rhode Island; and 165 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 27.51 sq. miles

Land Area: 26.63 sq. miles

Population: 12,588

Density: 473 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Buffumville Lake Station)

Normal temperature in January.....21.7°F

Normal temperature in July.....69.8°F

Normal annual precipitation.....46.4"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Oxford, Leicester, Worcester South, Webster

Regional Planning Agency

Central Massachusetts

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Worcester



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 987-6032

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Town Manager

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1713

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	6,318		
Democrats	2,324	36.8	%
Republicans	677	10.7	%
Other parties	0	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	3,317	52.5	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Oxford town, Worcester County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	13,352	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	13,352	100.0
Male.....	6,453	48.3	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	263	2.0
Female.....	6,899	51.7	Mexican.....	21	0.2
Under 5 years.....	845	6.3	Puerto Rican.....	162	1.2
5 to 9 years.....	1,003	7.5	Cuban.....	13	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	1,026	7.7	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	67	0.5
15 to 19 years.....	938	7.0	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	13,089	98.0
20 to 24 years.....	672	5.0	White alone.....	12,719	95.3
25 to 34 years.....	1,812	13.6	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	2,511	18.8	Total population.....	13,352	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	1,977	14.8	In households.....	13,265	99.3
55 to 59 years.....	599	4.5	Householder.....	5,058	37.9
60 to 64 years.....	473	3.5	Spouse.....	2,832	21.2
65 to 74 years.....	821	6.1	Child.....	4,328	32.4
75 to 84 years.....	531	4.0	Own child under 18 years.....	3,212	24.1
85 years and over.....	144	1.1	Other relatives.....	464	3.5
Median age (years).....	36.6	(X)	Under 18 years.....	178	1.3
18 years and over.....	9,872	73.9	Nonrelatives.....	583	4.4
Male.....	4,665	34.9	Unmarried partner.....	343	2.6
Female.....	5,207	39.0	In group quarters.....	87	0.7
21 years and over.....	9,401	70.4	Institutionalized population.....	83	0.6
62 years and over.....	1,782	13.3	Noninstitutionalized population.....	4	-
65 years and over.....	1,496	11.2	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	608	4.6	Total households.....	5,058	100.0
Female.....	888	6.7	Family households (families).....	3,598	71.1
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	1,752	34.6
One race.....	13,209	98.9	Married-couple family.....	2,832	56.0
White.....	12,901	96.6	With own children under 18 years.....	1,307	25.8
Black or African American.....	116	0.9	Female householder, no husband present.....	589	11.6
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	34	0.3	With own children under 18 years.....	350	6.9
Asian.....	112	0.8	Nonfamily households.....	1,460	28.9
Asian Indian.....	49	0.4	Householder living alone.....	1,195	23.6
Chinese.....	11	0.1	Householder 65 years and over.....	433	8.6
Filipino.....	6	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	1,887	37.3
Japanese.....	4	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over ..	1,068	21.1
Korean.....	7	0.1	Average household size.....	2.62	(X)
Vietnamese.....	23	0.2	Average family size.....	3.12	(X)
Other Asian ¹	12	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	3	-	Total housing units.....	5,228	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	2	-	Occupied housing units.....	5,058	96.7
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	170	3.3
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	1	-	occasional use.....	19	0.4
Some other race.....	43	0.3	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.7	(X)
Two or more races.....	143	1.1	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	3.3	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races: ³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	5,058	100.0
White.....	13,096	97.6	Owner-occupied housing units.....	3,801	75.1
Black or African American.....	152	1.1	Renter-occupied housing units.....	1,257	24.9
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	77	0.6	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.81	(X)
Asian.....	137	1.0	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.05	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	3	-			
Some other race.....	90	0.7			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	188
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	2
Federal (Section 8):	87



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Located in the Worcester area, which has three major cross-state highways: the Worcester Turnpike (Route 9), Route 20, and the Massachusetts Turnpike. I-495 borders to the east, I-190 links to the Fitchburg-Leominster area, I-84 and I-395 connect to Connecticut and points south. The region is well connected by rail and highway to the ports, airports, and intermodal facilities of Boston and Providence.

Major Highways

Principal highways are the Massachusetts Turnpike (Interstate Route 90) and U.S. Route 20, which run E-W across the state; State Routes 12 and 56 running N-S; and Interstate 395, which also runs N-S and connects Worcester to Interstate 95 in Connecticut.

Rail

Freight rail service is available on the Providence and Worcester Railroad. Contact number: (508) 755-4000 ext. 310

Bus

Oxford is a member of the Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA), which provides fixed route service between Oxford, Webster, Worcester, and Auburn.

Other

The Oxford Airport is a privately owned public use facility located 3 mi NE of town. It has a 2,047'x 50' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: None.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Clara Barton Birthplace

68 Clara Barton Road

(508) 987-5375

Oxford Library Museum

339 Main Street

(508) 987-6003

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Sandalwood Convalescent Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.